

## MISTLETOE OF THE INCENSE CEDAR

Meinicke (Proc. Soc. Am. Foresters. Mch. 1912) has a very interesting study of the California mistletoe, which is parasitic on the Incense Cedar. This mistletoe is a small hanging shrub producing barrel-shaped swellings on the trunks of such trees as have been long infected. Account is given of the examination of some of these swellings as old as 350 years and 45 inches in diameter.

The living "sinkers" of the mistletoe were found  $\frac{7}{8}$  inch long, extending into the sap-wood and going through 19 rings. The dead "sinkers" were also to be seen persistent in the heart wood. In one tree at a point where there was no infection during the first 37 years, as shown by the inner rings, the last 219 years show continuous infection.

The parasite begins on the young tree as a semi-parasite with green leaves. The enormous development of the bark gradually eliminates both the green shoots and the aerial haustoria, and leaves the plant with a widespread root system extending into the tissues of the host, apparently without serious injury to it.

A SIMPLE METHOD TO REMOVE PARAFFIN SECTIONS WHICH ARE  
STUCK TO A SHEET OF PAPER OR TO THE HAND

Ribbons of paraffin sections temporarily set aside on a sheet of paper frequently adhere so firmly to the paper as to be undetachable without special means.

A simple method to remove such sections I have found to be as follows:—

Cut out a piece of the paper together with such a length of the ribbon as is desirable for mounting on one slide. Drop 50-75% alcohol on the piece so that the alcohol may diffuse under the paraffin sections. As soon as the paper underlying the ribbon is soaked with alcohol immerse the piece gradually in water. The ribbon will float off and may be drawn up on a wet slide and mounted in the usual way.

In cases where sections accidentally adhere to the hand, drop some alcohol so that it may diffuse under the sections. They may then be easily removed.

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